THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) The Government have received various proposals from social partners for amendment to the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970.The details are yet to be worked out and hence no definite time-limit can be given.

(c) While amending the said Act, views of all social partners would be . kept in view and adequate protection to the contract labour would be ensured.

Women workers in night shifts

3048. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to ratify the protocol of 1990 permitting the women work-force to work in the factories during night shifts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken to ensure adequate safeguards for occupational safety of the female workers; and

(c) whether Government propose to amend Section 66 of the Factories Act, 1948 for the purpose and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With a view to ensuring optimal utilisation of the installed capacity, promotion of export and generation of employment opportunities for women, Government had decided to ratify Protocol of 1990 to the ILO Night Work (women) Convention (Revised), 1948 to provide flexibility in the matter of employment of women during night and related amendment to the Factories Act, 1948.

(b) The occupier of the factory shall be responsible for providing adequate safeguards as regards to occupational safety and health, adequate protection to their dignity, honour and also provide them transportation from factory premises to nearest point of their residence.

(c) Yes, Sir. Amendment to Section 66 of the Factories Act can be made only after registration of the ratification of Protocol of 1990 with the Director General, ILO.

Unemployment during Tenth Plan

† 3049. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(b) whether it is a fact that all the employment seeking persons may not be able to get employment by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan period despite achieving 8 per cent annual growth rate in the country;

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) the number of unemployed persons by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan period and the number of those among them who would be added during the Tenth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Special Group headed by Dr. S.R Gupta, Member, Planning Commission has estimated that with 8% annual growth of the economy, approximately 5-6 million jobs per year are likely to be created in the normal growth process and the remaining jobs will come from special employment generation programmes to achieve the target of 10 million jobs per year during each year of the 10th Plan. The Special group has projected that the number of unemployed persons on Current Daily Status (CDS) basis would be approximately 21.15 million by the end of the 10th Plan. The new entrants to the labour force during this period are estimated to be around 7 million per year.

Growth in labour force

3050. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the International Labour Organisations Global Employment Trends Report wherein Indian force was projected to grow @ 1.89 per cent annually whereas employment growth is expected to remain minimal; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.